Minutes for Guthrie County Board of Health

Guthrie County Health Services

December 14, 2022 Regular Meeting

**Present**

1. Board Members: Jan Mueller, Peg Snyder, Dr. Steven Bascom, Bill McDermott, Mike Dickson
2. Director: Jotham Arber
3. Staff member: Jo Rasmussen
4. Guest: Paula Spies

**Call to Order -**  Dr. Steven Bascom, Chairman, opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**Board minutes**

* November 2, 2022 minutes were reviewed.
  + Motion by Dickson second by McDermot to approve November 2, 2022 minutes. Motion carried.

**Financial Report**

* Financial reports for both departments were reviewed. Arber noted that the board of supervisor approved giving the rest of the allocation to departments. This will be reflected in the January report.
  + Environmental Health
* Arber reviewed the financial report.
  + Arber noted that the 28E agreements will need to be renewed in 2023 in which the base rate will be increased. It will be the first increase since Arber began overseeing Environmental Health Department. Arber was directed to notify Adair, Audubon and Cass Counties this month so they can plan with their 2023/24 budgets accordingly.
  + Public Health

Arber reviewed the financial report.

**Department Activity Report**

* Activities for Environmental Health and Public Health
  + Monthly reports of services provided for Public Health and Environmental Health were reviewed.
  + Arber noted that he is working with a representative from Beacon. It has a new way of overlaying AutoCAD files onto a homeowner’s property information.
  + Arber noted that we have given out 41 radon tests. Arber is working with Dr. Bascom on a study on radon. The study needs to have results from 50 tests before the study can be completed.
* Activities for Social Worker
  + A report was shared by Jenny Jessen, MSW. She has been working on policies for the Mental Health Social Work.
* Epidemiology Report (including COVID activity)
  + Arber gave an update on the current number of COVID cases.

**Old Business**

1. Update on Iowa Medicaid Billing
   * Arber explained issues we have been having with billing Amerigroup Anthem. Our current clearing house, Waystar, has been trying to fix the issues. If Waystar cannot fix the issues with Anthem, we will be able to get out of the contract and find another solution.
2. IT & Confinement Grant
   * Arber noted that the State of Iowa has extended the deadline from December 2022 to June 30, 2023. We still have around $20,000 to spend.
3. Incident at COVID vaccine clinic
   * In 2021 at the Panora School COVID clinic a lady tripped when coming into the building. The lady was driven to Guthrie County Hospital by one of our nurses. Later on, the lady was transported to a Des Moines hospital by ambulance. The daughter emailed Arber requesting the County pay $203.00 for the cost of the ambulance ride. The rest of the medical bills were covered by her insurance. Arber sent the email to State Street Insurance and our County Attorney. Motion by Snyder seconded by Dickson to allow the County insurance to pay for the ambulance transport but to have the County Attorney write a disclaimer that will go with the payment stating that Guthrie County will not be held liable for any other charges. Motion carried.
4. Tanning Bed Ordinance
   * Arber stated that ordinance had been given to the Guthrie County Attorney for review. John Tillman had been working on it but he left for another job. After the new County Attorney is sworn in, Arber will review the ordinance with her.
5. Radon tests
   * Arber noted that we have given out 41 radon tests. Arber is working with Dr. Bascom on a study on radon. The study needs to have results from 50 tests before the study can be completed.

**New Business**

1. Crawford County
   * Arber presented of a draft contract with Child and Adolescence Health which is through Crawford County. We will receive $15,000 which will pay for services that our staff will provide. Crawford County is working with Hope Jessen, nurse practitioner on this program.
   * Motion by Dickson seconded by McDermott to approve Arber giving the contract to the Guthrie County Attorney for review. Arber may sign the contract if the attorney approves it. Motion carried.

**Policy Review**

* None for this meeting.

**Guest**

* Paula Spies gave an update on New Opportunities

**Other**

* It was noted that Jan Mueller’s term ends in December 2022. Dickson noted that the County is asking anyone on a board to fill out an application. We will check with human resources to get the correct application. Mueller noted that she would be willing to serve again.
* Arber noted that he had an informational meeting with the three new elected board of supervisors as well as the two current supervisors.

**Next Schedule meeting dates**

* January 25, 2023
* February meeting will be cancelled.

Meeting closed at 8:30 p.m.

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Representative of Board of Health Board Secretary